

# TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES, FLORIDA

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## Town Council

Mayor Wayne Slaton

Vice Mayor Robert Meador

Councilmember Roberto Alonso

Councilmember Mary Collins

Councilmember Dorothy Cook

Councilmember Michael Pizzi

Councilmember Nancy Simon

## MINUTES REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING June 13, 2006 7:00 p.m.

### **Miami Lakes Middle School**

6425 Miami Lakeway North

Miami Lakes, Florida 33014

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Slaton called the meeting to order at 7:25 p.m.
2. **ROLL CALL:** In addition to Mayor Slaton, the following members were present: Vice Mayor Robert Meador, Councilmember Roberto Alonso, Councilmember Mary Collins, Councilmember Michael Pizzi, Councilmember Nancy Simon, Councilmember Dorothy Cook.
3. **INVOCATION/MOMENT OF SILENCE:** Mayor Slaton asked for a moment of silence.
4. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Mayor Slaton led the pledge.

Mayor Slaton recognized Lt. Scott Linder for a job well done and honored him with a certificate. Lt. Linder has been transferred to another station.

### **5. ORDER OF BUSINESS (DEFERRALS/ADDITONS/DELETIONS):**

Councilwoman Mary Collins requested to pull item 6C from the consent agenda. Councilwoman Nancy Simon requested to pull item 6F from the consent agenda. Vice Mayor Robert Meador requested to pull item 6D from the consent agenda. Town Clerk, Debra Eastman requested to add a new item, 6L to the consent agenda. Councilwoman Nancy Simon requested to pull the new item, 6L from the consent agenda in order to have time to look at it. Town Manager, Alex Rey requested to defer item 8B to the July agenda. Mayor Slaton that item 6H will be pulled at the request of the applicant.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Simon to accept the agenda as amended. There was a second from Councilwoman Collins. The Mayor called for the vote and all were in favor.

A motion for passage of the consent agenda as amended was made by Councilwoman Mary Collins with a second from Councilwoman Nancy Simon. The Mayor called for the vote and all were in favor.

## **6. CONSENT AGENDA:**

**A. A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL APPROVING THE AGREEMENT BETWEEN ACAI ASSOCIATES, INC. AND THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES FOR THE ROYAL OAKS PARK COMMUNITY CENTER DESIGN CRITERIA SERVICES. (Rey) Passed on consent.**

**B. A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL APPROVING THE PROJECT AGREEMENT BETWEEN KIMLEY-HORN AND ASSOCIATES, INC. AND THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES FOR THE ROYAL OAKS PARK COMMUNITY CENTER DESIGN/BUILD CRITERIA DOCUMENTS. (Rey) Passed on consent.**

**C. A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL APPROVING THE AGREEMENT BETWEEN ACAI ASSOCIATES, INC. AND THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES FOR THE MIAMI LAKES PARK CLUB HOUSE DESIGN CRITERIA SERVICES. (Rey)**

Councilwoman Mary Collins made a motion for the passage of the resolution. There was a second from Councilwoman Nancy Simon. Mayor Slaton announced that he had public opinion cards on this item and called Jim Hamilton to speak. Mr. Hamilton spoke in support of the resolution. Jack McCall spoke in favor of the resolution.

Councilwoman Mary Collins stated she would like to fast track this project and asked the Town Manager to give the Council some funding options.

Town Manager, Alex Rey spoke about an option of building the facility and leasing back from the developer. He also would look to the Council to give direction on whether to build the whole facility or do in two phases.

Councilwoman Mary Collins restated her motion and added that she would like the Town Manager to procure a funding plan during this budget process.

Mayor Slaton spoke in support of the resolution and project. Councilman Roberto Alonso suggested that the County and the State should contribute toward this project and urged the Town Manager to seek out funding from them.

Angela Garrison presented a petition to the Council asking them to act now and spoke in support of the project.

Vice Mayor Robert Meador spoke in favor of building the clubhouse and suggested that the funds be identified and voted on by the Council.

Councilwoman Nancy Simon asked for further information on the Manager's funding options. She suggested that the Manager pursue funding with the County and the State and bring them back to another meeting. Mayor Slaton stated his support for the project

and suggested that research be done for County and State funds, grants and approaching the School Board for financial help.

Vice Mayor Meador asked if a friendly amendment would be accepted to include the athletic fields. There was no response. Town Manager, Alex Rey suggested that in the interest of time the amendment come back next month.

Councilwoman Dorothy Cook stated that she agreed and would like to see the project fast tracked.

Councilwoman Collins moved the question, cutting off debate. The Mayor asked the Clerk to call the roll. The vote was in the affirmative and unanimous.

**D. A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL APPROVING THE PROJECT AGREEMENT BETWEEN KIMLEY-HORN AND ASSOCIATES, INC. AND THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES FOR THE MIAMI LAKES PARK CLUB HOUSE DESIGN/BUILD CRITERIA DOCUMENTS. (Rey) Passed on consent.**

**E. A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL APPROVING THE PROJECT PROPOSAL BETWEEN ACOSTA TRACTORS, INC. AND THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES FOR LOCH LOMOND NEIGHBORHOOD STORMWATER DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS. (Rey) Passed on consent.**

**F. A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL PROVIDING FOR A PROCEDURE FOR THE PLACEMENT OF ROADSIDE MEMORIAL MARKERS WITHIN THE TOWN'S RIGHTS OF WAY. (Rey/Collins)**

Mayor Slaton indicated that there were two public opinion cards filed for this item and called upon David Bennett. Dr. Bennett expressed his opposition to there being and permanent marker placed. Dr. Pedro Carballo expressed understanding for the families but was in opposition to a permanent marker. Councilmember Nancy Simon made a motion to change the resolution to strike out the provisions for a plaque and allow tree planting. Councilmember Dorothy Cook gave a second to the motion. Vice Mayor Meador questioned the language as perhaps optional and Town Attorney, Christina Prkic clarified that the opportunity would be optional. There being no further discussion, the Mayor called for the vote. It was in the affirmative.

**G. A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL ACCEPTING THE REQUEST OF OSCAR MEJIA, NEW OWNER OF THE PROPERTY TO REDUCE A PREVIOUSLY ASSESSED CODE ENFORCEMENT FINE FOR CASE NO. C2005-0525. (Rey) Passed on consent.**

**H. A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL ACCEPTING THE REQUEST OF CARLOS M. RIPPES TO REDUCE A PREVIOUSLY ASSESSED CODE ENFORCEMENT FINE FOR CASE NO. C2004-0206. (Rey)**

Mr. Carlos Rippes and his secretary explained the circumstances surrounding the receipt of the violation. Mr. Rippes asked for a total reduction of the assessment. Town Manager, Alex Rey clarified the how the fines were imposed and that the proposed reduction is in line with previous Council allowances. Councilmember Mary Collins made a motion to approve the resolution and it was seconded by Councilmember Roberto Alonso. The Mayor called for the vote and it was in the affirmative.

**I. A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL ACCEPTING THE REQUEST OF JUDY FARINAL (NICOL) TO REDUCE A PREVIOUSLY ASSESSED CODE ENFORCEMENT FINE FOR CASE NO. C2004-0200. (Rey) Approved on consent.**

**J. A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL ACCEPTING THE REQUEST OF JUDY FARINAL (NICOL) TO REDUCE A PREVIOUSLY ASSESSED CODE ENFORCEMENT FINE FOR CASE NO. C2005-1000. (Rey) Approved on consent.**

**K. A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO SEEK AND TO APPLY FOR GRANT FUNDING FOR RECREATION PROGRAMMING; AUTHORIZING TOWN OFFICIALS TO TAKE ALL STEPS NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE GRANT APPLICATION. (Rey) Approved on consent.**

**L. A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL APPROVING THE AGREEMENT FOR EXOTIC TREE REMOVAL SERVICES BETWEEN E. RODRIGUEZ LANDSCAPING, INC. AND THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES. (Rey)**

This item was not on the original agenda and pulled from the consent agenda. Town Manager, Alex Rey explained the location of the trees and the damage done to this area by Hurricane Wilma. Councilmember Nancy Simon made a motion for passage of the resolution and it was seconded by Councilmember Mary Collins. The Mayor called for the vote and it was in the affirmative.

**7. PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Reynaldo Angulo spoke in favor of being able to park his police vehicle on the swale in front of his house.

David Bennett spoke about his request of information to town staff and requested an answer.

Mirtha Mendez spoke objected to keeping the Town of Miami Lakes Main Street conference room and voiced objection to the position of Assistant to the Mayor.

**8. COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**A. Cultural Affairs Committee**

Felicia Salazar gave an update of the activities of the Committee.

**B. Beautification Committee – Jaime Correa**

No report given.

**9. ORDINANCES – FIRST READING:**

**10. PUBLIC HEARINGS/ORDINANCES – SECOND READING:**

**11. RESOLUTIONS:**

**A. A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES, FLORIDA, ADOPTING THE 2006-2011 MIAMI LAKES STRATEGIC PLAN; AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO TAKE ALL ACTIONS NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT THE POLICIES AND GOALS UNDER THE STRATEGIC PLAN. (Rey)**

Town Manager, Alex Rey explained the Strategic Plan process. Felicia Salazar spoke requesting advocating more green space in residential yards and encouraged the Town to create a landscape manual. Angela Garrison spoke of code enforcement and urged the Council not to give variances and her concern for fences. Merrett Steirheim of Government Services Group, Inc. explained the information in the Strategic Plan.

It was moved by Roberto Alonso and seconded by Mary Collins to add to the plan that the Building Department will review and respond to residential permits within ten days and commercial permits within fourteen days. The Mayor called for the vote and it was in the affirmative.

**B. A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL APPROVING THE INFORMATIONAL BROCHURE ON THE PROPOSED CHARTER AMENDMENTS; APPROPRIATING AN EXPENDITURE OF UP TO \$50,000 FOR THE PUBLIC PURPOSE OF INFORMING AND EDUCATING THE VOTERS OF THE TOWN ABOUT THE SIX CHARTER AMENDMENT QUESTIONS ON THE JULY 18, 2006 SPECIAL MAIL BALLOT ELECTION ON THE PROPOSED**

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CHARTER; APPROVING WAIVER OF COMPETITIVE BIDDING REQUIREMENTS FOR SERVICES RELATED TO THE PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION OF THE BROCHURE. (Rey)**

Town Attorney, Christina Prkic read the resolution. A motion for acceptance was made by Councilmember Mary Collins and seconded by Councilmember Dorothy Cook.

Jerome Schneider spoke against the charter amendments and the brochure. Meriam Mendoza spoke in favor of the brochure and requested that it also be distributed in a Spanish version. Felicia Salazar requested that the brochures be mailed as soon as possible and requested they be in both Spanish and English.

Town Manager, Alex Rey gave the background surrounding the production of the brochure. Councilmember Mary Collins moved to amend the motion to take off the tombstone with the Councilmember's names. Councilmember Michael Pizzi seconded the motion. Mayor Slaton spoke in favor of keeping the names. Councilmember Nancy Simon spoke against. The Mayor called for the vote and it was in favor with Mayor Slaton voting against.

Councilmember Michael Pizzi made a motion to put the disclaimer section at the top of the front page, between time sensitive and the snapshot. Councilmember Nancy Simon seconded the motion. The Mayor called for the vote and it was in the affirmative with Councilmember Dorothy Cook and Mayor Slaton voting in opposition.

Councilmember Robert Meador spoke in opposition to the brochure. Councilmember Nancy Simon made a motion to put time sensitive material in red ink, add on the front page the date the votes will be tallied on, add information on the date and time when votes must be received, there will be a ballot box in Town Hall and hours. It was seconded by Mary Collins. The Mayor called for the vote and it was in the affirmative.

Councilmember Nancy Simon made a motion to make a change on the second page, changing the word required to mandated. The motion was seconded by Mary Collins. The Mayor called for the vote and it was in the affirmative.

Councilman Pizzi suggested some language be added to the brochure to explain that there is some existing language in the Miami Dade County Code for a bill of rights and a no vote will not take that away. Councilmember Dorothy Cook expressed that she thinks the voters will understand it as it exists. Town Manager, Alex Rey clarified the format.

Councilmember Nancy Simon made a motion to add a footnote that would explain the meaning of the underline and strikethrough text. Councilmember Michael Pizzi seconded the motion. The Mayor called for the vote and all were in favor.

Councilmember Mary Collins moved the acceptance of the resolution as amended. It was seconded by Councilmember Roberto Alonso. The Mayor called for the vote it was in the affirmative with Vice Mayor Robert Meador and Councilmember Michael Pizzi voting in opposition.

**12. REPORTS:**

## **A. MAYOR'S REPORTS:**

### **1. Appointments**

Mayor Slaton proposed the following appointments:

Kevin Cuenca, Youth Activity Task Force

Jesus Aviles, Youth Activity Task Force

Ann Britt-Bennett, Beautification Advisory Committee

Cindy Irizarry, Youth Activity Task Force

Teresita Lopez, Youth Activity Task Force

Manuel Alfaro, Economic Development Committee

Mellie Ferrara, Elderly Affairs Committee

Mary Barbieri, Elderly Affairs Committee

Michael Salem, Elderly Affairs Committee

Councilmember Mary Collins made a motion for the acceptance of the appointments and it was seconded by Councilmember Dorothy Cook. The Mayor called for the vote and it was in the affirmative.

### **2. Appropriation Update**

Lobbyist Rick Rodriguez Pina gave an update on the legislative session. He reported that some funding was expected for trolley service. Councilmember Mary Collins asked if he could provide help with the building for Miami Lakes Park. She suggested that Veterans Affairs may be able to help. Mr. Pina explained that the park money was vetoed by the Governor.

### **3. Hurricane Preparedness Update—EOC**

Mayor Slaton explained that he attended a summit meeting on May 31. He reported that the County now understands the importance of municipalities having jurisdiction to obtain supplies. He further indicated the importance of having a practice drill and requested that the Manager hold a hurricane disaster drill.

## **B. MANAGER'S REPORTS:**

### **1. FDOT Traffic Management**

Town Manager, Alex Rey reported the construction that will be taking place along 154 Street and the Palmetto. Public Information Specialists from the Florida Department of Transportation provided details and maps of the project.

### **2. Manager's Vacation--August 1 to August 15, 2006**

Town Manager, Alex Rey notified the Council that he will be out of the office on vacation from August 1, 2006 through August 15, 2006.

### **3. Hurricane Update**

Finance Director, Alfredo Acin gave a report of the status of FEMA reimbursements from Hurricane Wilma.

## **C. COUNCILMEMBERS REPORTS:**

### **1. Youth Center (Pizzi)**

Councilman Pizzi emphasized the need to set up a program immediately. Recreation Director, Daniel Hopkins explained a plan to provide a six week program for youth 12 to 15 years of age.

Councilwoman Mary Collins made a motion to extend the meeting for an additional twenty minutes and to include the current this item, Miami Lakes Children's Library and Hurricane Clean Up Days items. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Nancy Simon. The Mayor called for the vote and all were in favor.

Councilmember Nancy Simon asked when the program was to begin and how it would be advertised. Mayor Slaton spoke in favor of the program and asked that the Recreation Director reach out to the students who advocated for a program.

Councilmember Michael Pizzi thanked the Recreation Director for his work on the program.

## **D. ATTORNEY'S REPORTS:**

## **13. NEW BUSINESS:**

### **A. Key to Town Scholarship (Meador)**

Vice Mayor Robert Meador indicated that in previous years there has been private financial support for the scholarship. He made a motion to continue with the scholarship and if the town cannot find private funding the scholarship be funded by the town. It was seconded by Councilman Pizzi. Councilman Pizzi amended the motion to clarify that if the town cannot find private funding, it would continue the scholarship. Vice Mayor Meador agreed with the clarification. Mayor Slaton supported the motion and clarified that this motion would be effective for all future years and not just for this year. All were in agreement. The Mayor called for the vote and it was in the affirmative.

### **B. Miami Library Children's Reading Program (Slaton)**

Mayor Slaton explained that the Council has been providing funding of \$3,000 per year for the last several years and requested that the Council continue this year. A motion was made by Councilwoman Mary Collins with a second from Councilwoman Nancy Simon. There being no further discussion, the Mayor called for the vote. It was a voice vote in the affirmative.



### **C. Hurricane Clean Up Days (Simon)**

Councilmember Nancy Simon explained that there will be one day of scheduled trash pickup so that people can clean out their garages before anticipated hurricanes. The pick up day will be August 21, 2006. She explained that the County Commissioner will be holding a Hurricane Fair and is making arrangements for this to take place at the Winn-Dixie Shopping Center. Mayor Slaton spoke in favor indicating that this was one of the components of hurricane preparedness that was discussed at a recent EOC meeting.

### **D. MLO Financial Support For Concession Stand Loss Revenue Due to Hurricane (Meador)**

Vice Mayor Meador made a motion that the Town Manager meet with the appropriate people at the Optimist Club to discuss the issue of revenue lost due to Hurricane Wilma. He requested that the Manager explore and make a later recommendation to the Council. Councilmember Dorothy Cook seconded the motion.

Councilmember Mary Collins left the meeting.

The Mayor called for the vote and it was in the affirmative.

### **14. FUTURE MEETING DATES:**

**June 20, 2006 Zoning Meeting, 6425 Miami Lakeway North, Miami Lakes 7 PM**  
**July 11, 2006 Regular Meeting, 6425 Miami Lakeway North, Miami Lakes 7 PM**  
**August 22, 2006 Zoning Meeting, 6425 Miami Lakeway North, Miami Lakes 7 PM**

### **15. ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting adjourned at 11:20 p.m.

Approved this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_, 2006.

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Wayne Slaton, Mayor

Attest:

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Debra Eastman, MMC  
Town Clerk